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Dear Sir,

We first protested Wolf Creek Village (WCV) on 16 October 2008. Our use of the area at Wolf Creek Pass is recreational. We ski at the ski resort and we backcountry ski throughout the proposed village area. I, Donna Ikenberry, am the author of *Hiking Colorado's Weminuche & South San Juan Wilderness Areas* and *Wild Colorado*. Wolf Creek Pass is an important wildlife corridor link between the Weminuche and the South San Juan wilderness areas.

Below is a list of our amended concerns based on reading the DEIS. These were concerns that we presented in 2008 and we think they are important today:

1.) Now that the damage has been done, what steps will the USFS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (US FWS), the Colorado Department of Natural Resources (CDNR), and the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) take to ensure animal migration corridors are preserved in the San Juan core area between the Weminuche and the South San Juan Wilderness Areas? This is especially important for the recovery of a viable lynx population in Colorado. Both WCV and Saddle Brook communities will cause an increase in traffic on U.S. Highway 160 and have an increased impact on highway mortality of wildlife in the area. These developments will also lead to more development along the U.S. Highway 160 corridor in the future, bringing more traffic, and fragmenting the habitat. To mitigate the effects of increased traffic a very much-needed land bridge, like the ones used in Canada and Wyoming needs to be built. The land bridge could be built over U.S. Highway 160 to allow animals to safely traverse across the highway. Wolf Creek Pass Landscape Linkage is vital to habitat connectivity in the Southern Rockies Ecosystem and the recovery of a viable lynx population in Colorado. The increased motorized and human recreational traffic in this area by the WCV and Saddle Brook communities will impair habitat effectiveness and reduce habitat connectivity. We have a chance here to create a model for the rest of the United States. Before this project is approved a land bridge should be put in place.

2.) If WCV becomes a reality there will be conflict between people and animals. In the past this conflict did not exist because the Wolf Creek Ski Corporation (WCSC) is a single season, winter only, day-use resort. WCV will be a year-round resort. Bears will

be tempted to get into the trash, elk and deer will enjoy eating the planted flowers, and coyotes, lynxes, and mountain lions will be looking for pets for dinner. Likewise, stray pets will have a negative impact on the surrounding NFS wildlife. Once again the wild animals will suffer because of human intrusion into a wild area.

3.) We are concerned about the impact of this project on the black bear, bobcat, mountain lion, and reintroduced moose populations. There is also the impact of the introduction of non-native plants that the developer or owner may use for the purpose of landscaping. What controls are in place to monitor this?

4.) We are concerned about the potential capacity of up to 10,000 residents at the WCV. The WCSC has an acceptable capacity of 4,200 skiers and a maximum capacity of 8,280 skiers. There seems to be a total disregard for the local ski users and those who have historically returned here each year to ski. At the South Fork town meeting the former Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the WCV development compared WCV and the South Fork area with Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The WCSC does not have the same skiable terrain as Jackson Hole. Wolf Creek is a smaller mountain. The WCSC has only 1,005 skiable acres compared to Jackson's 2,500 skiable acres. WCSC does not plan on adding any new lifts. I don't believe that the present facilities at WCSC, such as potable water, wastewater, and sewage, can support more than its current capacity of skiers. The WCV will put a big strain on WCSC and the present skiers who ski there will now go elsewhere to ski. A good thing will be spoiled.

Respectfully,
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